



## INQUIRIES

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### WAGE RATES INDEXES, OCTOBER 1976 (PRELIMINARY)

#### MAIN FEATURES

- The weighted average minimum weekly wage rates in October 1976 were \$131.93 for adult males and \$122.15 for adult females.
- The figure for adult males includes retrospective increases (effective May 1976) for building workers, increases for hotel employees in Western Australia, and decreases for mine workers in New South Wales and metal refinery workers in South Australia due to a drop in bonuses, etc.
- The figures for adult females include increases granted to hotel workers in Western Australia.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

This statement contains figures of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females for October 1976 and corresponding figures for some earlier months. More information on these statistics will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in

particular industries. The indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of *wages* as distinct from *salaries*; those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are therefore excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, **figures for the latest twelve months shown are subject to revision.** As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

4. For adult males the weekly wage rates exclude rural industry; in addition the hourly rates exclude shipping and stevedoring, for which data to compute hourly wages are not available. The weekly and hourly wage rates for adult females exclude rural industry, mining and quarrying and building and construction.

5. The annual changes shown in Tables 1, 2 and 4 measure the percentage change from the same month for the previous year. The percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes.

TABLE 1. WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES  
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable; and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males					Adult females				
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates	
	Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)
1975 -										
October	117.74	13.3	416.9	293.52	414.9	108.34	20.5	544.2	273.09	544.3
November	117.76	12.2	417.0	293.57	414.9	108.37	19.7	544.3	273.17	544.5
December	117.95	11.7	417.6	294.05	415.6	108.55	18.5	545.2	273.62	545.4
1976 -										
January	118.02	11.5	417.9	294.22	415.9	108.56	16.9	545.3	273.65	545.4
February	125.49	18.3	444.3	313.11	442.6	115.68	23.2	581.1	291.61	581.2
March	125.54	16.9	444.5	313.23	442.7	115.72	20.7	581.3	291.71	581.4
April	125.64	16.8	444.9	313.49	443.1	116.15	20.4	583.4	292.78	583.6
May	129.28	15.0	457.8	322.62	456.0	119.57	17.3	600.6	301.41	600.8
June	129.33	14.7	457.9	322.75	456.2	119.60	15.0	600.8	301.49	600.9
July	129.36	14.5	458.0	322.84	456.3	119.64	14.5	601.0	301.59	601.1
August	131.93	16.5	467.1	329.29	465.4	122.13	16.6	613.5	307.86	613.6
September	131.94	12.1	467.2	329.31	465.5	122.13	12.7	613.5	307.86	613.6
October	131.93	12.1	467.2	329.30	465.4	122.15	12.7	613.6	307.91	613.7

(a) See explanatory notes above. (b) Base: Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.



TABLE 2. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 OCTOBER 1976 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (a) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (b)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (c)	181.54	128.33	167.24	124.53	128.95	143.08	164.19	11.8	581.4
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	120.71	126.06	132.21	124.16	122.96	125.11	123.84	12.2	438.5
Textiles, clothing and footwear	120.97	121.85	122.85	120.71	124.30	117.52	121.51	12.2	430.2
Food, drink and tobacco	127.57	128.37	132.69	124.06	130.89	126.82	128.72	12.4	455.8
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	126.95	120.48	131.48	120.22	124.56	119.77	125.25	12.3	443.5
Paper, printing, etc.	128.79	135.69	144.54	133.35	132.10	129.15	133.03	11.6	471.0
Other manufacturing	126.38	126.72	127.91	126.12	124.63	121.01	126.37	12.0	447.5
All manufacturing groups	123.48	126.20	131.99	124.55	125.12	124.18	125.45	12.2	444.2
Building and construction (d)	145.16	145.41	135.10	141.64	133.80	132.96	141.58	11.8	501.3
Railway services	119.86	115.05	135.35	120.05	109.64	120.53	121.77	11.8	431.2
Road and air transport	134.77	126.92	126.78	126.40	128.99	129.77	130.35	12.0	461.5
Shipping and stevedoring (e)	162.54	163.16	155.86	154.16	163.81	159.79	160.48	10.8	568.2
Communication	157.42	158.23	157.04	156.27	157.93	153.45	157.40	11.1	557.3
Wholesale and retail trade	131.69	133.74	132.42	128.70	128.37	133.45	131.84	12.6	446.8
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	136.89	133.72	139.07	126.39	127.92	141.22	134.79	12.4	477.3
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	125.36	121.71	124.75	117.79	113.44	116.46	122.40	12.4	433.4
All industry groups (a)	132.60	130.88	136.00	129.25	128.26	131.20	131.93	12.1	467.2

For footnotes see Table below.

TABLE 3. HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 OCTOBER 1976 (a)

Weighted average minimum hourly rates payable and index numbers of hourly rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (cents)							Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100) (b)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (c)	507.84	320.81	441.49	311.31	337.90	365.77	443.05	626.2
Manufacturing -								
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	301.89	315.38	330.72	310.39	307.67	312.77	309.74	437.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	302.43	304.61	307.11	301.78	310.76	293.80	303.77	429.4
Food, drink and tobacco	319.36	320.93	331.71	310.14	327.23	317.04	321.95	455.0
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	317.38	301.21	328.71	300.55	311.40	299.42	313.13	442.6
Paper, printing, etc.	321.98	339.70	361.34	333.37	336.91	322.87	332.99	470.7
Other manufacturing	315.95	317.08	319.77	316.04	310.86	302.78	316.05	446.7
All manufacturing groups	308.82	315.69	330.06	311.52	313.04	310.48	313.77	443.5
Building and construction (d)	362.89	363.52	337.75	354.10	334.49	332.39	353.94	500.3
Railway services	299.65	287.92	338.38	300.12	274.09	301.34	304.50	430.4
Road and air transport	336.93	317.30	316.96	316.00	322.46	324.44	325.86	460.6
Communication	403.81	407.48	404.42	407.21	406.69	395.67	405.12	572.6
Wholesale and retail trade	329.23	334.35	331.06	321.74	320.91	333.62	329.61	465.9
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	348.96	343.45	351.86	322.18	323.19	358.54	343.40	485.4
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	313.40	304.28	311.87	294.48	283.61	291.16	305.99	432.5
All industry groups (a)	331.83	326.15	339.69	321.46	319.66	324.54	329.30	465.4

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Base: Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100. (c) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (d) The weekly rates used in the index for occupations specified in the National Building Trades Construction Award include the weekly base rate of pay, the special allowance and the industry allowance. (e) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers.



TABLE 4. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 31 OCTOBER 1976 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)						Annual Index Nos. change (a) (Base 1954 = % 100) (b)		
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Manufacturing -									
Engineering, metals, vehicles etc.	118.14	124.85	120.43	119.27	119.28	119.93	120.61	12.9	605.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	114.83	113.18	115.40	116.13	116.81	107.51	114.07	12.9	573.0
Food, drink and tobacco	121.98	122.20	120.81	118.73	108.96	117.90	120.89	13.4	607.2
Other manufacturing	119.45	121.54	121.98	118.83	118.30	115.51	120.23	12.3	603.9
All manufacturing groups	117.47	117.45	118.55	118.22	115.64	113.29	117.46	12.8	590.0
Transport and communication	124.60	126.17	130.33	129.09	121.51	131.31	126.31	12.3	634.5
Wholesale and retail trade	129.41	133.52	127.95	129.15	125.79	123.27	129.84	13.1	652.2
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	129.54	126.81	126.54	120.06	113.95	126.79	126.53	11.8	635.6
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	120.06	118.10	118.68	114.38	107.95	112.78	117.88	12.5	592.1
All industry groups (a)	122.37	122.16	123.67	122.33	118.48	118.48	122.15	12.7	613.6

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 5. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a) (\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of -	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES (a)									
1975 -									
October	118.67	117.26	121.10	115.07	111.63	116.99	119.15	116.03	117.74
November	118.69	117.27	121.11	115.06	111.63	117.27	119.18	116.04	117.76
December	118.70	117.32	121.48	115.13	113.29	117.27	119.23	116.39	117.95
1976 -									
January	118.68	117.32	121.58	115.12	113.96	117.71	119.25	116.52	118.02
February	126.16	124.65	129.32	122.64	121.50	124.98	126.68	124.05	125.49
March	126.16	124.68	129.53	122.68	121.56	124.98	126.73	124.09	125.54
April	126.28	124.71	129.63	123.01	121.65	124.99	126.75	124.30	125.64
May	129.94	128.28	133.46	126.62	125.10	128.63	130.41	127.91	129.28
June	130.02	128.30	133.49	126.68	125.17	128.66	130.45	127.97	129.33
July	130.05	128.34	133.49	126.69	125.27	128.66	130.45	128.04	129.36
August	132.60	130.88	136.00	129.25	128.21	131.20	133.00	130.64	131.93
September	132.62	130.88	136.00	129.26	128.21	131.20	133.00	130.66	131.94
October	132.60	130.88	136.00	129.25	128.26	131.20	133.00	130.65	131.93
ADULT FEMALES (a)									
1975 -									
October	109.27	108.87	108.76	103.30	104.92	105.27	102.63	113.29	108.34
November	109.27	108.87	109.02	103.31	104.94	105.27	102.69	113.30	108.37
December	109.27	109.00	110.22	103.34	104.94	105.56	102.76	113.57	108.55
1976 -									
January	109.27	109.00	110.22	103.49	104.94	105.56	102.76	113.59	108.56
February	116.21	115.97	117.38	113.15	111.19	112.33	109.38	121.16	115.68
March	116.21	115.97	117.38	113.41	111.58	112.33	109.38	121.23	115.72
April	116.42	116.25	117.58	116.35	111.68	112.44	109.78	121.68	116.15
May	119.87	119.66	121.07	119.83	114.72	115.98	113.06	125.23	119.57
June	119.87	119.66	121.17	119.83	115.11	115.98	113.06	125.28	119.60
July	119.87	119.66	121.17	119.83	115.89	115.98	113.06	125.36	119.64
August	122.37	122.16	123.67	122.33	118.11	118.48	115.56	127.83	122.13
September	122.37	122.16	123.67	122.33	118.11	118.48	115.56	127.83	122.13
October	122.37	122.16	123.67	122.33	118.48	118.48	115.56	127.87	122.15

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1.



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